

CLAIMS:

1. Method of segmenting an object of interest from a multi-dimensional dataset, wherein a deformable surface model is to be adapted to a surface of the object, method comprising the steps of: acquiring object-specific data; adapting the deformable surface model to the surface of the object by using the object-specific data.
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2. The method of claim 1, wherein the object-specific data is selected from the group consisting of shape properties in the form of an object model, a point distribution model, an object-specific feature search function, an object-specific parameter setting and object-specific material properties.
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3. The method of claim 2, wherein the object-specific feature search function is adapted to a predefined range of values selected from the group consisting of a gradient, a direction of a gradient and an intensity range.
- 15 4. The method of claim 2, wherein the object-specific parameter setting is adapted to control an influence of image features and shape constraints.
5. The method of claim 2, wherein the object-specific material properties relate to tissue properties of an organ which are assigned to internal nodes of a
20 volumetric mesh of the deformable surface model.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of acquiring object-specific data comprises the steps of: displaying a graphical user interface on a display prompting a user to input object related information; receiving a corresponding data input from an
25 input device; storing the data input as object-specific data in a memory.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of acquiring object-specific data comprises the steps of: reading the object-specific data from a memory.
- 5 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the method is an organ segmentation method for segmenting anatomical structures in medical images.
9. Image processing device, comprising: a memory for storing acquired object-specific data; and an image processor for segmenting an object of interest from
10 an image, wherein a deformable surface model is adapted to a surface of the object by using the object-specific data.
10. Computer program for segmenting an object of interest from a multi-dimensional dataset, wherein a deformable surface model is to be adapted to a surface
15 of the object, wherein the computer program causes a processor to perform the following steps when the computer is executed on the processor: acquiring object-specific data; adapting the deformable surface model to the surface of the object by using the object-specific data.